



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the Application of: Whitman et al
Application No. 09/887,789
Attorney Docket No. 3556-P03147US1
Filed: June 22, 2001
For: Electro-Mechanical Surgical Device
Examiner: Tran, Louis B.
Group Art Unit: 3721

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Robin Dolan
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Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants are submitting herewith a Form PTO-1449 and a copy of the references listed thereon. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination. Accordingly, no fee is required. In the event a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit account no. 04-1406.

Applicants respectfully request full and proper consideration of the listed information during examination of the application, and that the listed information be printed on any patent that issues therefrom.

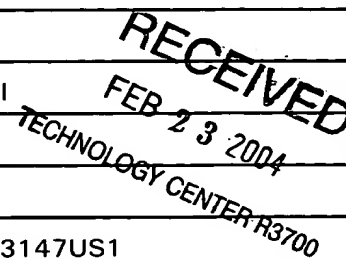
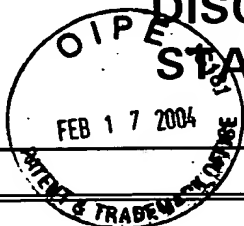
Respectfully submitted, :

DANN, DORFMAN, HERRELL & SKILLMAN
A Professional Corporation
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By Donald R. Piper, Jr.
Donald R. Piper, Jr.
PTO Registration No. 29,337

Telephone: (215) 563-4100
Facsimile: (215) 563-4044
Enclosures - Form PTO-1449 - Copies of references listed on PTO - 1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	<i>Complete if known</i>	
	Application Number: 09/887,789	
	Filing Date: June 22, 2001	
	First Named Inventor: Whitman et al	
	Group Art Unit: 3721	
	Examiner Name: Tran, Louis B.	
SHEET 1 OF 2		Attorney Docket Number: 3556-P03147US1



UNITED STATES PATENT DOCUMENTS				
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE MM-DD-YYYY	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR
		5,667,517	09/16/1997	Hooven
		5,954,259	09/21/1999	Viola
		5,868,760	09/09/1999	McGuckin
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		0634,144	01/18/1995	Ethicon
		6119913	09/19/2000	Main, et al.
		5529235	6/25/1996	Boiarski, et al.
		5609560	03/11/1997	Ichikawa, et al.
		5617857	04/08/1997	Chader, et al.
		5993454	11/30/1999	Longo
		6059719	05/09/2000	Yamamoto, et al.
		6434507	08/13/2002	Clayton, et al.

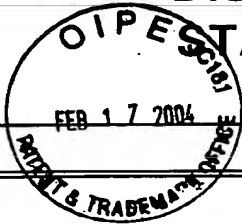
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	DOCUMENT NUMBER	COUNTRY OR REGION	DATE OF PUBLICATION MM-DD-YYYY	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR OR APPLICANT
		99/58076	WO	11/18/1999	
		92/16141	WO	10/01/1992	
		2044108	GB	10/15/1990	
		0116220	EP	0/22/1984	

EXAMINER'S SIGNATURE		DATE CONSIDERED	
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SHEET 2 OF 2		Attorney Docket Number: 3556-P03147US1



		0156774	EP	10/02/1985	RECEIVED FEB 23 2004 TECHNOLOGY CENTER B3700
		0399701	EP	11/28/1990	
		0552050	EP	07/21/1993	
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		0539762	EP	10/05/1992	
		0621006	EP	03/22/1994	
		93/08754	WO	05/13/1993	

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON-PATENT DOCUMENTS		
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in Capital Letters), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item(book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published

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